

REMARKS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The drawings were objected to for containing misspelled words. Marked-up drawing pages are enclosed herewith showing proposed drawing changes in red to correct misspellings. Approval of the proposed drawings changes is hereby requested.

The drawings were further objected to for failing to show the transmitter feature of claim 29. Further, claim 29 was objected to for containing an improper multiple dependancy. Claim 29 has been cancelled by amendment herein and thus the objections are rendered moot.

Claims 1-4, 7-8, 10, 15-18 and 21-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,426,424 to Vanden Heuvel et al. (hereinafter "Vanden Heuvel"). For the following reasons, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding claims 1 and 15, Vanden Heuvel does not teach erasing concerned messages *if* designated character sequences are contained in the stored messages *and* a predetermined time has lapsed, as required. These claims require that certain messages containing designated character sequences are automatically deleted after a predetermined time period. In contrast, Vanden Heuvel merely discloses erasing designated databases (301) upon receiving an add/delete selective call message (401) (see column 6, lines 41-48). Thus, there is no teaching in Vanden Heuvel of certain messages that expire after a predetermined time and then are automatically deleted, as in claims 1 and 15. Therefore, claims 1 and 15, and their dependent claims 2-4 and 16-18, are patentable over Vanden Heuvel.

Regarding claims 7 and 21, Vanden Heuvel does not teach erasing the messages not to

be stored in a storage area *after* the messages have been checked *when* designated character sequences are contained in the received messages, as required. These claims require that certain messages containing designated character sequences are automatically deleted after they have been checked by the user. In contrast, Vanden Heuvel merely discloses a memory manager that deletes the oldest read or unread message in memory in order to make room for a new message (see column 9, lines 63-68). Thus, there is no teaching in Vanden Heuvel of certain messages that are automatically deleted once they are checked. Therefore, claims 7 and 21, and their respective dependent claims 8, 10, and 22-24, are patentable over Vanden Heuvel.

Claims 5-6, 9, 11-14, 19-20 and 25-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Vanden Heuvel in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,239,679 to Murai (hereinafter "Murai"). For the following reasons, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Each of the rejected claims is not anticipated for the reasons explained above with respect to the respective claims from which they depend, 1, 7, 15 and 21. Murai does not teach the limitations which are absent from Vanden Heuvel.

Specifically regarding claims 5-6 and 19-20, depending from claims 1 and 15 respectively, Murai does not teach erasing concerned messages *if* designated character sequences are contained in the stored messages *and* a predetermined time has lapsed, as required. Murai teaches erasing messages after an elapsed amount of time, but not only erasing specific messages having designated character sequences.

Further, regarding claims 5-6 and 19-20, Vanden Heuvel does not suggest modifying its teachings to delete designated messages after a predetermined time, as required. Therefore, since each of the limitations of the claims is not disclosed or suggested by the references, claims 5-6 and 19-20 are patentable over the prior art of record.

Specifically regarding claims 9, 11-14 and 25-29, depending from claims 7 and 21

respectively, Murai does not teach erasing the messages not to store in a storage area *after* the messages have been checked *when* designated character sequences are contained in the received messages, as required. Further, there is no suggestion in Vanden Heuvel to modify its teachings to delete designated messages after they have been checked. Therefore, since each of the limitations of the claims is not disclosed or suggested by the references, claims 9, 11-14 and 25-29 are patentable over the prior art of record.

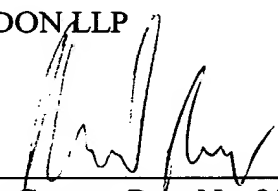
In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 31812.

Respectfully submitted,

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